

STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D. STATE SUPERINTENDENT

March 22, 2021

Dear Superintendents and Public School Academy Directors:

The state of Michigan is pleased to announce the release of Michigan Secure, a mobile device security application that warns users when suspicious activity is detected on their mobile device. We are asking for your assistance to share this <u>free application</u> with your communities to help students, teachers, and families remain safe while operating online.

Threats to mobile devices are more prevalent than ever and hard to detect. Cybercriminals will steal personal and financial data from compromised devices and monitor their owner's online activities for nefarious purposes. This is especially problematic during the COVID-19 pandemic as thousands of Michigan students, their families, and educators are using mobile devices and public or free Wi-Fi for remote/blended virtual learning.

That is why downloading Michigan Secure is so important. It has a database of potential threat indicators and will notify users when activity that matches a documented threat appears on their device. The app connects automatically to known secure Wi-Fi hotspots and warns you if a nearby hotspot has questionable security. Best of all, Michigan Secure protects mobile devices without collecting or transmitting personal information.

This app was designed to empower Michiganders to participate in today's online society with peace of mind. Any assistance you can provide to spread the word to your communities is greatly appreciated. This set of <u>communication materials</u> will help with your promotional efforts. And don't forget to download the app yourself.

If you have any questions, email DTMB-Michigan-Seure-App@michigan.gov.

Sincerely,

Michael F. Rice, Ph.D. State Superintendent

Brom Stibitz

Director, Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget and State Chief Information Officer

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION